

REMARKS

The Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Examiner's Action mailed June 16, 2004. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the comments set forth below.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 3-5, and 8-9 are editorially amended. These amendments are minor and are not intended to change the scope of the claims as originally filed. Accordingly, claims 1-9 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,901,238 to Matsushita in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,430,511 to Paff, et al (hereinafter referred to as "Paff") as explained in paragraph 2 spanning pages 2 and 3 of the Action. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As explained in the Description of the Related Art of the present application, an iris recognition apparatus using an automatic photographing apparatus is known. However, two cameras are conventionally required: 1) a narrow view angle camera and 2) a wide view angle camera. Thus, the known apparatus has shortcomings in that the resultant apparatus has been large and heavy, the circuitry for processing the image signal has been complex, and the cost of such an automatic photographing apparatus, in particular an iris recognition apparatus is consequently increased.

The claimed invention overcomes the shortcomings of the prior art by providing a multiple view angles camera, and automatic photographing apparatus, and an iris recognition method which can be reduced in size and weight, as well as cost, because the claimed invention employs a single image sensor which receives both an narrow view angle

photograph and a wide view angle photograph.

In contrast to the claimed invention, Matsushita is directed to an iris identification system and iris identification method where a video photograph module 13 finds the “face” of a customer and a main control module 18 zooms up and photographs the irises of the customer. While Matsushita mentions that camera 13a photographs the irises of the eyes of the customer, Matsushita does not disclose “a single image sensor” having a narrow view angle image region and a wide view angle region as recited in independent claim 1.

Moreover, it is clear from Matsushita, the video photograph module 13 of camera 13a first finds the “face” of a customer then identifies the position of the “eyes” and then informs the main control module 18 that iris data may be obtained. That is, Matsushita does not disclose a camera for projecting an image of a wide view angle photograph range and an image of narrow view angle photograph range on one image sensor at the same time as required in independent claims 3, 4, 5 and 9. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Matsushita fails to disclose 1) a single image sensor having a narrow view angle photograph range and a wide view angle photograph range; 2) a camera that photographs an image of a wide view angle photograph range and an image of a narrow view angle photograph range on one image sensor at the same time, as claimed by Applicant. Thus Matsushita not only fails to disclose the pan tilt control mechanism as acknowledged in the Action, but the single image sensor shown in Figs. 1C, 5B, and 7C of the present application.

Matsushita discloses a zooming mechanism that is described as obtaining plural images. First, a wide view angle image including the whole face of a subject as a target is obtained and then a narrow view angle image between both eyes is obtained. Therefore, Matsushita’s zooming mechanism cannot disclose, teach or suggest obtaining one image with

multiple views as illustrated in our image of Fig. 1C of the present application, for example.

The secondary reference to Paff is directed to a controller for a surveillance assembly. The controller taught by Paff generates signals that enable control of a plurality of functions of a camera and lens assembly. No where does Paff disclose or discuss an image sensor, let alone a single image sensor which photographs a wide view angle image and a narrow view angle image. Accordingly, Paff merely discloses and suggests a controller for panning and tilting a camera. Thus, even if one of ordinary skill in the art would combine the iris identification system taught by Matsushita with controller taught by Paff, Applicant's invention would not result because neither patent document discusses or mentions an image sensor. Consequently, there is no motivation to modify the zooming mechanism taught by Matsushita to have a single image sensor that receives both a narrow view angle image and a wide view angle image as set forth in independent claim 1 and an image sensor that receives both the narrow view angle image and the wide view angle image at the same time as set forth in independent claims 3, 4-5 and 9 of the present invention.

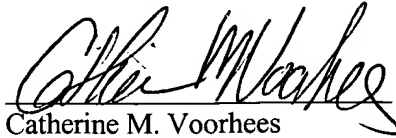
In view of the foregoing amendments and the comments distinguishing the claimed invention from the prior art of record, it is believed that claims 1-9 are allowable over the prior art of record and that the rejection should be withdrawn. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued indicating that claims 1-9 are allowed over the prior art of record.

A request for the necessary extension in the period for filing this response is attached. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the official fee of \$110.00 to Deposit Account No. 22-0261. If a greater or lesser fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Should the Examiner believe that a conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange such a conference.

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Respectfully submitted,



Catherine M. Voorhees

Registration No. 33,074

VENABLE LLP

P.O. Box 34385

Washington, D.C. 20043-9998

Telephone: (202) 344-4000

Telefax: (202) 344-8300

CMV/elw
DC2/586256